to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, there is no evidence to establish the alleged sale of unused original B.A. degrees. However, on the basis of a report appearing in the newspaper, an F.I.R. has been lodged by the Controller of Examinations with the local police.

(b) Any further action in the matter would be possible after the investigtion report is received.

Foreign firms offer to run Kolar Gold Mines

646. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Business Age (Business Section of Asian Age) New Delhi dated the 22nd April, 1994 under the caption "Foreign firms offer to run Kolar Gold Mines";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction thereto ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to revive the Kolar Gold Mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some foreign companies had shown interest in collaborating with Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML), Govt. of Indian Undertaking engaged in gold mining. The company has recently invited offers for collaboration in the field of exploration and exploitation of gold and treatment of mill tailings by 1-8-1994.

(c) Possibility of revival of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. is being examined by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in consultation with all concerned parties.

Investment by a Australian Company in India for Mining

647. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a top Australian company is keen to make significant investments in India especially in mining;

(b) if so, the total amount of investments expected from this Australian company ; and

(c) the terms and conditions under which such investments are likely to be made by this Australian company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) The National Mineral Policy placed before this House on 5-3-1993 liberalising further the conditions pertaining to foreign investment in mining sector has generated interest amongst foreign mining companies, including Australia. Foreign investment will materialise only after the companies have obtained Prospecting Licence/ Mining Lease from the concerned State Government either themselves or through joint venture arrangements with existing companies. the process of which will take time.

Study on Colliery deaths

648. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government to ascertain the rate of annual colliery deaths and deaths due to coal dust related diseases among the miners in the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons for the failure of the safety measures taken so far to prevent colliery deaths and deaths due to coal dust related diseases?